

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12 NEA-10

OIC-02 DEAE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 JUSE-00 NSAE-00

CTME-00 SNM-05 TRSE-00 USIA-15 NSC-05 OES-07

OMB-01 HEW-06 AID-05 AGRE-00 EB-08 L-03 SP-02

/142 W

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R 221718Z FEB 78

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6286

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 GENEVA 02775

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, UN

SUBJECT: FIFTH SPECIAL SESSION, COMMISSION ON

NARCOTIC DRUGS: ITEM 7 - INCB REPORT

1. THERE WERE TWENTY-THREE INTERVENTIONS ON THIS ITEM, WITH ALMOST ALL OF THEM SPECIFICALLY PRAISING THE REPORT. IN HIS INTRODUCTION, PROFESSOR PAUL REUTER HIGHLIGHTED THE FOLLOWING POINTS: (A) OPIATE PRODUCTION AND TRAFFIC ARE INCREASING; (B) REGIONAL AND INTER-REGIONAL COOPERATION IS INCREASING; (C) GENERAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE IS NEEDED IN NARCOTICS PRODUCING AREAS; (D) DEMAND REDUCTION PROGRAMS SHOULD BE EXPANDED; (E) DECRIMINALIZATION OF CANNABIS POSSESSION OFFENSES FOR USERS IS ACCEPTABLE BUT BOARD WISHED TO SEE EFFECTS OF LESS SEVERE PENALTIES; (F) THERE IS CONCERN OVER OVER-DOSE DEATHS AND HEROIN AVAILABILITY IN WESTERN EUROPE; (G) THAI CROP SUBSTITUTION PROGRAM SHOULD BE EXPANDED TO OTHER VILLAGES; (H) THE SITUATION IN HONG KONG HAS STABILIZED; (I) BURMESE AND THAI ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES HAVE HAD A POSITIVE EFFECT; (J) BURMA AND LAOS SHOULD HAVE BETTER CONTROLS WITH FUND ASSISTED PROJECTS; (K) CROP SUBSTITUTION PROJECTS

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IN PERU AND BOLIVIA WILL TAKE LONG TIME TO BE EFFECTIVE; (L) MOROCCO HAS SET UP NATIONAL NARCOTICS COMMISSION WHICH SHOULD FOCUS ON CANNABIS TRAFFIC; (M) GOVERNMENTS MUST HAVE GOOD DOMESTIC LEGISLATION CONTROLLING PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES TO CARRY OUT THE 1971 CONVENTION.

2. FALCO STATEMENT PRAISES REPORT AND SUPPORTS BOARD'S

POSITION OPPOSING PREEMPTIVE BUYING OF OPIUM, ENCOURAGING DEVELOPMENTAL ASSISTANCE TO NARCOTICS PRODUCING AREAS AND CALLING FOR FURTHER REGIONAL AND INTER-REGIONAL COOPERATION. STATEMENT CALLS FOR BOARD TO CONTINUE DIALOGUE WITH GOVERNMENTS TO HAVE THEM TAKE REMEDIAL MEASURES. SPECIAL EMPHASIS PLACED ON ILLICIT TRAFFICKING AND PRODUCTION IN ASIA AND THE MIDDLE EAST.

3. THE FOLLOWING ISSUES WERE ADDRESSED DURING THE DEBATE:

(A) DISCUSSION OF THE BOARD'S REPORT SHOULD IN FUTURE BE PLACED UNDER ITEM 3, THE ILLICIT TRAFFIC. AUSTRIA, CANADA, INDIA, SENEGAL AND UK THOUGHT IT USEFUL TO ARRANGE THE DEBATE IN THIS MANNER SO THAT ILLICIT TRAFFIC EXPERTS WOULD BE AVAILABLE DURING ITS DISCUSSION.

(B) PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES. CANADA CRITICIZED THE REPORT FOR NOT PLACING ENOUGH EMPHASIS ON PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES. INDIA, NIGERIA AND SPAIN ARE CONCERNED ABOUT DIVERSION FROM LICIT TRADE. INDIA AND UK NOTE INCREASING TREND OF ILLICIT LABORATORIES.

(C) INCREASED RESOURCES FOR THE BOARD. BELGIUM, CANADA, FRG, SENEGAL AND PROFESSOR REUTER SUPPORT THIS.
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(D) PREEMPTIVE BUYING OF OPIUM. TURKEY SUPPORTS US AND BOARD OPPOSITION TO IT.

(E) DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE. YUGOSLAVIA CALLS FOR GENERAL DEVELOPMENT OF DRUG-PRODUCING AREAS.

(F) REGIONAL COOPERATION. AUSTRIA, PAKISTAN AND TURKEY SUPPORT US POSITION FAVORING REGIONAL COOPERATION. TURKEY CALLS FOR FUND SUPPORT TO FOSTER THIS.

(G) SEIZED OPIUM. TURKEY STATES THAT COUNTRIES SELLING SEIZED OPIUM ARE UNDERCUTTING LICIT PRICES AND AFFECTING COMPETITION. THEY ALSO INDIRECTLY ENCOURAGE ILLICIT PRODUCTION. TURKEY CALLS FOR A SPECIAL SECTION ON THIS IN NEXT BOARD REPORT.

(H) CANNABIS. TURKEY AND USSR OBJECT TO EASING RESTRICTIONS ON CANNABIS, CLAIM IT HAS ALREADY LED TO INCREASED TRAFFIC AND ABUSE. BELGIUM AND UK INDICATE THEY ARE CONSIDERING TAKING MODERATE APPROACH BY EASING PENALTIES. STUDY ON THIS WILL SOON APPEAR IN

UK WHICH MAY ALSO CALL FOR LESS PUNISHMENT FOR MINOR
TRAFFICKING OFFENSES.

(I) HEROIN AND COCAINE IN WESTERN EUROPE. FRG, PAKISTAN,
SWEDEN AND USSR NOTE INCREASE IN HEROIN IN WESTERN
EUROPE, PARTICULARLY FROM THE MID EAST. SWEDEN CITES
RISE IN COCAINE AVAILABILITY.

(J) DEMAND REDUCTION. FRANCE, SWEDEN AND TOGO AGREE WITH
BOARD'S CALL FOR GREATER ATTENTION TO THIS AREA.

(K) ILLICIT TRAFFIC HIGHLIGHTS. IRAN: FEARS THAT IT
MAY BECOME A TRANSITING COUNTRY. TURKEY: CONCERNED

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THAT ITS NATIONALS ARE INVOLVED IN ILLICIT TRAFFICKING
AND IS ADDRESSING THIS PROBLEM IN COOPERATION WITH
OTHER GOVERNMENTS AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.
UK: NOTES DESTRUCTION OF LSD LAB WHICH ACCOUNTED FOR
95 PERCENT OF UK'S SUPPLY AND 50 PERCENT OF WESTERN
EUROPE'S SUPPLY. PAKISTAN: ADMITS PROGRESS IN APPLYING
CONTROLS TO DRUG PRODUCING AREAS HAS BEEN SLOW DURING
LAST FOUR YEARS BUT STATES THAT PRIOR TO THEN THERE WAS
NO PROGRESS.

4. US DEL AND OTHERS DEVISED DRAFT RESOLUTION WHICH
PRAISES BOARD'S REPORT, CALLS FOR CONTINUING
GOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION WITH THE BOARD, AND URGES
GREATER EFFORTS TO ERADICATE ILLICIT OR UNCONTROLLED
POPPY CULTIVATION IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN LICIT SUPPLY
DEMAND BALANCE BY AVOIDING IMBALANCES CAUSED BY SALE OF
SEIZED OPIUM. VOTE ON THIS RESOLUTION WILL COME LATER

IN SESSION.

5. COMMENT: CND GENERALLY PLEASED WITH INCB REPORT
SINCE IT CONTAINS MORE UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION THAN DND
DOCUMENTS. ALSO, AS AN APOLITICAL BODY, THE BOARD
CAN TAKE A POSITION ON SENSITIVE ISSUES. THE
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IMPRESSION WAS THAT THE BOARD COULD AND SHOULD DO MORE,
ESPECIALLY ON THE DIPLOMATIC FRONT AND IN THE FIELD OF
PSYCHOTROPICS. DISCUSSIONS WITH BOARD AND BOARD
SECRETARIAT MEMBERS SHOW EAGERNESS TO ASSUME THIS ROLE.
VANDEN HEUVEL

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